

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/683,784

Examiner

Lamson D. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

MOLINET ET AL.

Art Unit

2861

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to \_\_\_\_\_.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-47.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 10 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)            |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date <u>10/10/03</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                               |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material                               | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance.  |
|  | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.   |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

- The primary reasons for allowance for claims 1-20, and 40-41 are the inclusion of a printing device and method of compensating position changes comprising a controller arranged to use at least one printmask for each print station arranged to distribute printing between printing stations and to compensate errors of dot forming elements, wherein the printing device is arranged to replace a currently used printmask with another printmask relating to a changed relative lateral position detected or predicted. It is these limitations, either alone or combined as claimed, that have not been taught, found, or suggested by prior art.
- The primary reasons for allowance for claims 21-34 and 44-45 are the inclusion of a printing device and a method of compensating lateral position changes comprising a controller arranged to use at least one print mask for at least one print station for each drum turn and each detected or predicted relative lateral position between print station and the recording medium, wherein the print masks are arranged are arranged to distribute the dot-forming element activity between the drum turns and, in addition, to compensate the errors of dot-forming elements.

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It is these limitations, either alone or combined as claimed, that have not been taught, found, or suggested by prior art.

- The primary reasons for allowance for claims 35-39 and 46-48<sup>47</sup> are the inclusion of a printing device comprising a printmask memory and method of compensating lateral position changes arranged to store printmasks for each drum turn and each detected or predicted relative position between a print station and a recording medium, wherein the printmasks are arranged to distribute dot-forming activity between the drum turns and to compensate the errors of dot-forming elements, and a controller arranged to use at least one printmask from the stored printmasks for at least one print station during printing. It is these limitations, either alone or combined as claimed, that have not been taught, found, or suggested by prior art. *4/29/01*
- The primary reasons for allowance for claims 42-43 are the inclusion of a method of compensating lateral position changes comprising the step of using in response of a detected or predicted change of the relative lateral position at least one other printmask from stored printmasks than the currently used one, this at least one other printmask relating to the changed relative lateral position. It is these limitations, either alone or

combined as claimed, that have not been taught, found, or suggested by prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Neese (6,398,342) teaches when an ink jet is defective, at least a portion of printmask is replaced with a replacement mask such that one or more of the remaining inkjets compensates for the defective one.
- Bauer (6,688,726) teaches a method for producing printmasks to eliminate step advance and swath height error banding.

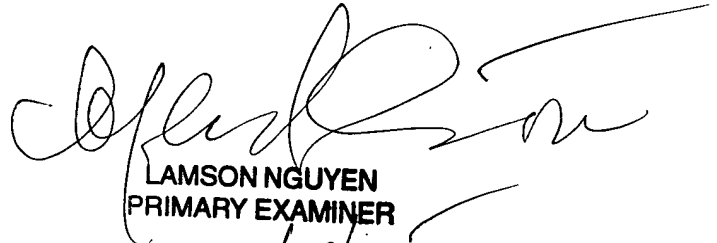
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lamson D. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-2259. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Talbott can be reached on 571-272-1934. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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LAMSON NGUYEN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
04/29/01